



U.S. Department
of Veterans Affairs

Via Email: 28254-211272620@requests.muckrock.com

OCT 29 2018

Mr. Michael Morisy
MuckRock
DEPT MR 28254
411A Highland Avenue
Somerville, MA 02144-2516

Re: Freedom of Information Act Tracking Number – 2019-00001-R
DOJ –2016-005451 (OIP)

Dear Mr. Morisy;

This letter acknowledges receipt of your Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request, dated September 18, 2016, submitted to the Department of Justice (DOJ), Office of Information Policy, seeking a copy of the invitation lists for the two Chief FOIA Officers Council meetings that had taken place, as well as the attendee list for those meetings. You also sought any responses to the invitations, including any documents that detailed reasons given for not attending by the Chief FOIA Officers of each given agency.

While searching for records responsive to your request, the DOJ located two (2) pages of emails (Attachment A) that originated with, or, pertains to, the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA). Those pages were referred to the VA for a referral, release determination, and, direct response to you.

The FOIA Service received this referral on September 12, 2018, and assigned it FOIA tracking number **2019-00001-R**. Please refer to this number when communicating with the VA regarding your request.

In response to your request, we are enclosing two pages of emails that are responsive. Both pages are being released in their entirety. No portions of the enclosed records have been withheld either in part or in whole. This concludes VA's response to your FOIA request.

We appreciate your interest in the VA. If you have any further questions concerning this letter, you may contact Ms. Joan Haynesworth of my staff at (202) 632-8466.

Sincerely,

for

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Doloras Johnson".
Ms. Doloras Johnson
Director, VACO FOIA Service
Office of Privacy Information and Identity Protection (PIIP)
Quality, Privacy, and Risk (QPR)
Office of Information and Technology (OIT)

cc: Nadege A. Dadega, DOJ, Office of Information Policy, Washington, DC

Delake, Nadege (OIP)

From: Orr, Martha <Martha.Orr@va.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, July 19, 2016 11:38 AM
To: DOJ.OIP.FOIA (SMO); Council, LaVerne H.
Cc: Miller, Kai F.; Oswalt, John
Subject: RE: Invitation: Chief FOIA Officers Council Meeting July 22

Hello Ms. Pustay: I will be attending on behalf of Ms. Council as she is unavailable on July 22. Please send any information regarding this meeting to me.

Thanks!

Marta

From: DOJ.OIP.FOIA (SMO) [mailto:DOJ.OIP.FOIA@usdoj.gov]
Sent: Tuesday, July 19, 2016 7:36 AM
To: Council, LaVerne H.
Cc: Orr, Martha
Subject: [EXTERNAL] RE: Invitation: Chief FOIA Officers Council Meeting July 22

Dear Mr. Council,

We understand that the Chief FOIA Officer Council meeting is occurring with relatively short notice, but given that this is the inaugural meeting we were hoping that you or a representative could attend.

Please let us know as soon as possible if you or someone else will be able to attend on behalf of the Department of Veterans Affairs. Then we will send the registration link for entry into the EEOB.

Sincerely,

Melanie Ann Pustay
Director
Office of Information Policy
Department of Justice

From: DOJ.OIP.FOIA (SMO)
Sent: Monday, July 18, 2016 2:05 PM
Subject: RE: Invitation: Chief FOIA Officers Council Meeting July 22

Agency Chief FOIA Officers:

This is a friendly reminder to please respond to the below invitation by 5pm today if you would like to attend the CFO Council meeting taking place this Friday. We will then follow up with the formal registration link for entry into the EEOB.

Thank you,
OIP

From: DOJ.OIP.FOIA (SMO)
Sent: Wednesday, July 13, 2016 2:24 PM
Subject: Invitation: Chief FOIA Officers Council Meeting July 22

Agency Chief FOIA Officers:

I write to you today to announce the inaugural meeting of the newly established Chief FOIA Officers Council on July 22, 2016. As you know, on June 30, 2016, President Obama signed into law the FOIA Improvement Act of 2016, which among other things established a Chief FOIA Officer Council. The Chief FOIA Officer Council is co-chaired by the Directors of OIP and OGIS and is made up of each agency Chief FOIA Officer and the Deputy Director of Management of OMB. In accordance with the new law, the Council is tasked with developing recommendations for improving FOIA, sharing best practices, and developing and coordinating initiatives.

We ask each Chief FOIA Officer to join us for the first meeting of the Council where you will be briefed on the Council's responsibilities, as well as new duties assigned to Chief FOIA Officers as a result of the recent amendments to the FOIA. We also look forward to sharing the results of DOJ's Proactive Disclosure Pilot, which will be one of the action items for the Council.

The meeting will be held at **2:00pm on July 22, 2016 at the South Court Auditorium of the Eisenhower Executive Office Building; 1650 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20502**. In accordance with the requirements of these meetings included in the FOIA amendments, this meeting will be open to the public and live streamed. For security purposes registration is required. Please respond to this e-mail by COB on July 18, 2016 to RSVP. Upon receiving your RSVP to this email, we will send you a link to formally register to attend the meeting.

I look forward to continuing our work together as part of this new Council as we build on all the great work of your agencies in improving FOIA administration.

Thank you,

Melanie Ann Pustay
Director
Office of Information Policy
Department of Justice